

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5 and 7-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 5, 7-11, 13-14, 16, and 19-20 are amended, and claims 4 and 6 are canceled.

I. The Drawings Satisfy Formal Requirements

The Examiner suggests that Figure 1 and 2 should be designated as Prior Art. Accordingly, the drawings are designated as Prior Art. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

II. The Specification Satisfies Formal Requirements

The Examiner objects to the specification for informalities. Accordingly, the specification is amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

III. The Claims Satisfy Formal Requirements

The Examiner objects to the claims for informalities. Accordingly, the claims are amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Withdrawal of the objection to the claims is respectfully requested.

IV. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 12, 14-16, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,025,155 to Hattori; and claims 2, 3, 7, 13 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Hattori in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,666,604 to Nakagami et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner indicating claims 6 and 11 include allowable subject matter. Accordingly, independent claims 1, 14 and 16 are amended to include the allowable features recited in claim 6. As such, all the claims are in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103 is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets makes changes to Figs. 1 and 2 and replaces the original sheets with Figs. 1 and 2.


Attachment: Replacement Sheets

V. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:

Replacement Sheets (Figs. 1 and 2)

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